IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A routing control system, comprising:

transfer devices that perform transfer control processing, the transfer devices being connected to form a communication network; and

a routing control device that is remotely located from the transfer devices, to which said transfer devices are connected, said routing control device does not have transfer control processing functionality performed by the transfer devices,

wherein said routing control device has routing control information and transmits the routing control information to said transfer devices, [[and]]

said transfer devices perform said transfer control processing of packets and transmit the packets to respective transfer devices based on said routing control information transmitted from said routing control device, and

~~wherein,~~ in cases where said transfer devices do not have said routing control information, said transfer devices request transmission of said routing control information thereto from said routing control device.

18. (Currently Amended) The routing control system according to claim 17, wherein when said routing control device receives a request for transmission of said routing control information from one of said transfer ~~device~~ devices, said routing control device transmits said routing control information, to the one of said transfer ~~device which~~ devices that requested [[this]] the transmission.

19. (Currently Amended) A routing control device to which transfer devices that perform transfer control processing are connected, ~~wherein~~ comprising:

a routing processing unit configured to determine ~~said routing control device has~~ routing control information relating to packet transfer routes, and to transmit ~~transmits~~ the routing control information to said transfer devices that are remotely located from the routing control device and are connected to form a communication network, [[and]]

wherein when a request for transmission of said routing control information is received from one of said transfer ~~device~~ devices, said routing control device transmits said routing control information to the one of said transfer ~~device which~~ devices that requested [[this]] the transmission, and said routing control device does not have transfer control processing functionality performed by the transfer devices.

20. (Currently Amended) A transfer device that performs transfer control processing, comprising:

~~wherein said transfer device performs~~ a transfer unit configured to perform said transfer control processing of packets, and ~~transmits~~ to transmit the packets over a communication network formed by the transfer device and a plurality of other transfer devices, based on routing control information transmitted from a routing control device that is remotely located from the transfer device and connected therewith, the transfer unit being configured to request ~~which requests~~ transmission of said routing control information thereto from said routing control device, in cases where the transfer device does not have said routing control information,

wherein said routing control device does not have transfer control processing functionality performed by the transfer devices.

21. (New) The routing control system according to claim 17, wherein said routing control device is configured to receive congestion condition information from each of the transfer devices, and to determine congestion conditions of physical links between the transfer devices based on the congestion condition information.

22. (New) The routing control device according to claim 19, further comprising:

a congestion condition determining unit configured to receive congestion condition information from each of the transfer devices, and to determine congestion conditions of physical links between the transfer devices based on the congestion condition information.

23. (New) The transfer device according to claim 20, wherein the transfer unit is configured to transmit congestion condition information to the routing control device.